



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

**Date:** 12/23/2003

**GAIN Report Number:** TH3152

## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

**2003**

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**Report Highlights:**

Export prices remained high in response to Japan's rice tender last week and the Royal Thai Government intervention program.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[TH]

**Indicative Price (Week Ending Dec. 22):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	480	455	482	499	500	490	460	479	478
WR 100 B	207	205	206	205	208	205	203	205	203
PB 5%	193	200	196	204	195	202	195	198	199
WR 5%	200	201	200	200	200	199	198	199	198
WR 10%	197	197	196	197	196	195	193	195	194
WR 15%	194	192	191	195	193	190	188	191	190
WR 25%	187	187	188	192	187	183	183	186	186
WR 35%	182	182	186	190	182	179	178	182	182
A 1 SUP	164	169	164	168	167	163	160	165	165
A 1 SPEC	162	167	163	166	166	-	158	163	163
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

**Market Tone**

Export prices for most grades of rice remained strong mainly in response to Japan's rice tender last week and also the Royal Thai Government intervention program. Trade sources reported that Japan's tender for 100% grade white rice has boosted the Thai domestic market price since the previous week. Also, the government intervention program will likely become more aggressive after the government released its old crop rice stock of 1.01 million tons. Trade sources reported that the government stock release did not affected the current market prices for new crop, as the old crop would be sold to specific markets, particularly to some African and Asian countries. As for the current government intervention program, the authorities have bought around 1.2 million tons of paddy, most of which are white rice paddy (as of Dec. 21, 2003), since the start of the program on Nov. 1, 2003.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
NOV 2	150,971	122,125	4,211	5,044
NOV 9	124,835	132,090	4,336	5,168
NOV 16	122,785	132,784	4,459	5,263
NOV 23	146,044	136,158	4,605	5,383
NOV 30	143,301	134,241	4,748	5,492
DEC 7	86,287	124,604	4,834	5,543
DEC 14	117,731	123,341	4,952	5,607
DEC 21	102,416	112,434	5,054	5,700

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Unofficial exports for Dec. 15-21, 2003 totaled 102,416 tons, up 15,315 tons from the previous week's total and down 10,017 tons from the four-week moving average of 112,434 tons. Exports during Jan. 1- Dec. 21, 2003, totaled 5,054,296 tons, compared with 5,700,272 tons (including fragrant rice) during the same period in 2002.

According to the Department of Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Nov. 30, 2003 amounted to 6,740,714 tons, up slightly from 6,678,416 tons in 2002.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Dec. 1-5, Dec. 8-12, and Dec 15-19, 2003 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Dec. 1-5	Dec. 8-12	Dec. 15-19
weekly sales	108,027	116,808	116,790
4 week sum	483,173	455,567	427,881
4 week mov avg.	120,543	113,892	106,970
Total weekly sales	5,113,859	5,230,667	5,347,457

End of Report.